

**FEEs FOR INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENT WORK.**

Dr. .... Aug. 7th, 1916.

....., California.

Dear Doctor:—

To meet and overcome to some degree the adverse results arising from the requirements occasioned by the State Workmen's Compensation Act upon the Insurance Companies I represent in the capacity of Medical Director, it has become necessary to propound and put into execution a system whereby these requirements are met in a beneficial manner to all interested.

This can be successfully accomplished by the appointment throughout the State of a staff of reliable and competent surgeons, and the sending of all injured employees for treatment to the appointed physicians covering the territory in which the accident happened.

The benefits of such a scheme as briefly outlined are, first:—the insured, the injured employee, and the Insurance Company are fully satisfied that no better or more proficient medical service could be rendered, overcoming the present fear and positive danger of injured employees being treated by incompetent men; secondly, the physicians appointed, of course, receive the benefit not only of an increased practise but a very lucrative income; the third benefit I think you will readily agree should go to the Insurance Companies controlling this work. Several schemes have already been propounded wherein the physicians securing the work are required to make a reduction below the present schedule adopted by the State of 25%; while some reduction below is unquestionably in order in view of the great increase of work given the physicians appointed, I personally feel that a 25% reduction is a trifle high and I have therefore recommended to my Companies that a return of 20% should be sufficient.

I should be pleased to go into the matter in further detail should you desire to become affiliated with us in the work, in any event a prompt reply containing your views on the subject will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) .....

Medical Director.

P. S.—We desire you to represent us as Chief County Surgeon in ..... County.

..... has annotated this letter with "This was not even dignified by an answer."  
(Signed) .....

**DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACY AND CHEMISTRY.**

Edited by FRED I. LACKENBACH.

(Devoted to the advancement of Pharmacy and its allied branches; to the work of the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry of the American Medical Association, and to matters of interest bearing upon the therapeutic agents offered to the medical profession. The editor will gladly supply available information on matters coming within the scope of this Department.)

**NEW AND NONOFFICIAL REMEDIES.**

Since publication of New and Nonofficial Remedies, 1916, and in addition to those previously reported, the following articles have been accepted by the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry of the American Medical Association for inclusion with "New and Nonofficial Remedies":

**Swan's Bacillus Bulgaricus.**—A pure culture in tubes of the Bacillus Bulgaricus. It is designed for internal administration and for direct application to body cavities, abscesses and wounds. The culture is supplied in boxes of twelve tubes. The tubes must be kept in a cool place and must not be used after the date stamped on the package. Swan-Myers Company, Indianapolis, Ind. (Jour. A. M. A., Nov. 25, 1916, p. 1601).

**ITEMS OF INTEREST.**

**Intravenous Therapy.**—The technic, although not difficult, must be thoroughly mastered, or undue

pain, infection, air embolism, or even death may result. Often a drug has an action different from that obtained by the usual method of administration. Deaths have resulted not only from a lack of proper technic, but also from a lack of knowledge of drugs so administered. Thus death has followed the injection of an iron preparation containing peptone, and also following intravenous injection of ether. Intravenous injections, while sometimes superior to the slower methods, are distinctly inferior when a continuous rather than a sudden action is desired as with iodids, nitrites, iron or salicylates. Intravenous injections should not be resorted to unless distinct advantages are to be secured, as when immediate action is necessary in emergencies, where the drug is not otherwise absorbed or is destroyed in the stomach. In the light of our insufficient knowledge of the action of simple drugs when administered intravenously, the injection of complex mixtures of drugs is particularly reprehensible (Jour. A. M. A., Nov. 11, 1916, p. 1450).

**Tartrates in Nephritis.**—While the vegetable acids, such as citrates, burn to alkali in the body, the tartrates are not so converted, and leave the body nearly in their original form. Underhill and others have shown that tartrates in large doses can cause tubular nephritis in animals. While human beings tolerate without apparent kidney disturbance small doses of tartrates, either given medicinally or as they occur in baking powders and in certain foods, and while it would probably require very large doses to cause kidney inflammation, it would seem inadvisable to give food rich in tartrates or to give medicinally large doses of tartrates in nephritis (Jour. A. M. A., Nov. 25, 1916, p. 1601).

**Unna's Paste for Varicose Veins.**—In the treatment of varicose ulcers of a mild form Dr. Ochsen prepared a boot composed of several layers of a bandage, each treated with Unna's Paste applied hot. The paste consists of gelatine, 4 parts dissolved in 10 parts hot water to which 10 parts glycerine and 4 parts zinc oxide are added (Jour. A. M. A., Nov. 25, 1916, p. 1617).

**Toilet Lotion.**—Nothing is better to soften and whiten the skin than the official cold cream. For oily skins a tragacanth lotion is suitable (Jour. A. M. A., Nov. 25, 1916, p. 1618).

**What Ailed Him?**—A druggist wants to know what ailed the patient for whom the following was prescribed: Calomel 1 grain, potassium iodide 4 drachms, potassium bromide 3 drachms, potassium citrate 5 drachms, tincture of aconite 2 fluidrachms, wine of ipecac 1 fluidounce, chloroform water to make 3 fluidounces. Without venturing a guess regarding the patient's illness, it is suggested that if anything new was wrong with the patient after he took the medicine, the case may be diagnosed as one of misplaced confidence, either the physician's misplaced confidence in drugs or the patient's misplaced confidence in the physician (Jour. A. M. A., Nov. 18, 1916, p. 1541).

**Some Misbranded Nostrums.**—The following "patent medicines" were found misbranded by the federal authorities: A. D. S. Cod Liver Oil Comp., claimed by the American Druggists' Syndicate to be a sovereign remedy in pulmonary tuberculosis, was not possessed of the virtues claimed, nor a preparation of the active principles of pure Norwegian cod liver oil. Johnson's Chill and Fever Tonic, claimed to be a "guaranteed remedy" for dengue fever, typhoid fever, measles and la grippe, was a watery solution of Epsom salts and cinchonin hydrochloride. A. D. S. Peroxide Talcum Antiseptic and Deodorant, sold by the American Druggists' Syndicate with the claim that it contained a peroxide and to be a wonderful antiseptic and germicide, was found to have no antiseptic properties and no detectable peroxide. Dr. King's Royal Germetour, claimed to be a "germ destroyer," was found to consist essentially of 98 per cent. water and 2 per cent. sulphuric acid, saturated with hydrogen sulphid (Jour. A. M. A., Nov. 18, 1916, p. 1541).